

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) Hinged-lid box for cigarettes or cigarette packs (10), comprising ~~blank—a~~ package blank (17) —made of (thin) cardboard for the purpose of forming a box part (13) with box front wall (20), box rear wall (24), box side walls (22) and a lid (14) having lid front wall (21), lid rear wall (25) and lid side walls (23), ~~it being possible wherein~~ during the ~~a~~ production process ~~to fold a~~ collar (15), which is connected as a single piece to one side of the package blank (17), is folded against an inner side of the package blank (17), **characterized by** the following features:

- a) the ~~blank—~~package blank (17) —forms successive or continuous regions for an outer box side tab (18) and lid side tab (19), the box front wall (20) and the lid front wall (21), the box side wall (22) and the lid side wall (23), the box rear wall (24) and the lid rear wall (25), as well as a marginal connective strip for connecting the outer box side tab (18), and the lid side tab (19), and
- b) the collar (15) is attached to a free edge of the {outer} box side tab (18).

2. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** the package blank (17) has punched lines (28) for the purpose of delimiting the lid front wall (21), the lid side tab (19) and the lid side wall (23) from adjacent regions of the box part (13), with a plurality, ~~in particular, two of~~ spaced-apart residual connections (29) being formed by a transverse section of the punched line (28) in the region of the box front wall (20) and the lid front wall (21) and a residual connection (30) being formed in the middle of each oblique leg of the punched line (28) separating the box side tab (18) from the lid side tab (19), on one hand, and the box side wall (22) from the lid side wall (23), on the other hand.

3. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, **characterized in that** the collar (15) ~~comprising the~~ comprises a collar front wall (42) and lateral collar flaps (39, 40) and is delimited by an upper collar edge (44) which assumes an oblique sloping configuration at least in the region of lateral collar flaps (39, 40).

4. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 3 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that** the collar (15) has in a centered region of the collar front wall (42) a depression (43) bordered by the collar edge (44) and that the collar edge (44) joining the depression (43) has a ~~{straight}~~ oblique sloping configuration proceeding from collar corners (45).
5. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 3 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that**, in the region where the collar flap (40) joins the box side tab (18), the collar edge (44) joins a punched line (28) formed in the region of the package blank (17) for delimiting the box part (13) from the collar (15), with ~~preferably~~ an oblique leg of the punched line (28) being directed toward the collar edge (44) at an obtuse angle.
6. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that** the collar (15) folded against the inner side of the package blank (17) is connected to the package blank (17) ~~{exclusively}~~ in the region of box side tab (18) and collar flap (40), ~~preferably by means of {two} glue beads {46}~~.
7. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that** a box strip (26) arranged opposite to the box side tab (18) is connected to ~~the~~an inner side of ~~the~~a collar flap (40) in the region of the collar (15) and to the inner side of the box side tab (18) outside of the collar (15).
8. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** a lid strip (27) laterally attached to the region of the lid rear wall (25) as a continuation of ~~the~~a box strip (26) is connected to the lid side tab (19).
9. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that** a box strip (26) and a lid strip (27) are delimited from one another by a wedge-shaped punching (49) to form oblique edges.

10. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that**, for the purpose of accommodating two pack groups (11, 12) arranged one above the other and comprising individual packages or cigarette packs (10), the collar (15) extends into a region of ~~the~~a lower pack group (12), in particular to a region below an {imaginary} midplane of the packs of the lower pack group (12).

11. (currently amended) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1 ~~or one of the further Claims~~, **characterized in that** upright package edges (50, 51) are configured as round corners or as beveled edges, ~~in particular by conforming to the corresponding shape of the package contents—round corner cigarette packs (10) or cigarettes.~~

12. (cancelled).

13. (cancelled).

14. (cancelled).

15. (cancelled).

16. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 2, **characterized in that** the collar (15) comprises a collar front wall (42) and lateral collar flaps (39, 40) and is delimited by an upper collar edge (44) which assumes an oblique sloping configuration at least in the region of lateral collar flaps (39, 40).

17. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 16, **characterized in that** the collar (15) has in a centered region of the collar front wall (42) a depression (43) bordered by the collar edge (44) and that the collar edge (44) joining the depression (43) has a straight oblique sloping configuration proceeding from collar corners (45).

18. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 16, **characterized in that**, in the region where the collar flap (40) joins the box side tab (18), the collar edge (44) joins a punched line (28) formed in the region of the package blank (17) for delimiting the box part (13) from the collar (15), with an oblique leg of the punched line (28) being directed toward the collar edge (44) at an obtuse angle.

19. (new) Hinge-lid box for cigarette packs (10), comprising a package blank (17) made of thin cardboard for the purpose of forming a box part (13) with box front wall (20), box rear wall (24), box side walls (22) and a lid (14) having lid front wall (21), lid rear wall (25) and lid side walls (23), and with a collar (15) abutting the inner side of the box front wall (20) and the box side walls (22), **characterized by** the following features:

- a) the height of the hinge-lid box corresponds approximately to the height of a conventional cigarette pack (10) as the package contents, and
- b) the width of the hinge-lid box is sized such that five standard cigarette packs (10) can be accommodated next to each other in the hinge-lid box, with the cigarette packs (10) abutting each other with their front face and rear face large-surface areas.

20. (new) Hinge-lid box for cigarettes or cigarette packs (10), comprising a package blank (17) made of thin cardboard for the purpose of forming a box part (13) with box front wall (20), box rear wall (24), box side walls (22) and a lid (14) having lid front wall (21), lid rear wall (25) and lid side walls (23), and with a collar (15) abutting the inner side of the box front wall (20) and the box side walls (22), **characterized by** the following features:

- a) at least two hinge-lid boxes are joined as sub-packages (56, 57) to form a multipack unit,
- b) the sub-packages (56, 57) lie with base walls (34) against one another, and
- c) the sub-packages (56, 57) are connected detachably to one another in the region of the base walls (34).

21. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 20, **characterized in that** the sub-packages (56, 57) are connected to one another on at least two facing sides, namely at the box side walls (22) of the box part (13), in each case by means of a severable adhesive label (58).

22. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 21, **characterized in that** the adhesive label (58) has a perforation line (59) in the region of the base walls (34) of the sub-packages (56, 57) abutting each other.
23. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 20, **characterized in that** a row of five cigarette packs (10) configured as hinge-lid packs lying adjacent to one another is arranged in each of the sub-package (56, 57), with the cigarette packs (10) abutting each other with front sides and rear sides and with lids facing the lid (14) of the respective sub-package (56, 57).
24. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** conventionally configured cigarette packs (10) lie flat in the hinge-lid box serving as a multipack and are arranged with front sides or rear sides facing upwards or downwards.
25. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 20, **characterized in that** conventionally configured cigarette packs (10) lie flat in the hinge-lid box serving as a multipack and are arranged with front sides or rear sides facing upwards or downwards.
26. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 2, **characterized in that** there are two of the spaced-apart residual connections (29).
27. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 6, **characterized in that** the collar (15) folded against the inner side of the package blank (17) is connected to the package blank (17) exclusively in the region of box side tab (18) and collar flap (40) by means of two glue beads.
28. (new) Hinge-lid box according to Claim 11, **characterized in that** the package contents are selected from the group consisting of round corner cigarette packs (10) and cigarettes.